

What is claimed is:

1    1.    A method comprising periodically adjusting an access point output power in  
2    a wireless network to reduce potential interference while communicating with  
3    associated mobile stations.

1    2.    The method of claim 1 wherein periodically adjusting an access point output  
2    power comprises determining a path loss for each associated mobile station.

1    3.    The method of claim 1 further comprising adjusting the access point output  
2    power when a mobile station associates.

1    4.    The method of claim 3 further comprising adjusting the access point output  
2    power when the mobile station disassociates.

1    5.    The method of claim 1 further comprising transmitting beacons at a full  
2    access point output power.

1    6.    A method comprising:  
2            transmitting a beacon frame in a wireless network;  
3            receiving a signal from a mobile station; and  
4            adjusting an access point output power to reliably communicate with the  
5    mobile station.

1    7.    The method of claim 6 wherein adjusting an access point output power  
2    comprises reducing the output power of frames other than beacon frames.

1    8.    The method of claim 7 wherein adjusting an access point output power  
2    further comprises transmitting beacon frames at a maximum power.

1       9.     The method of claim 6 wherein adjusting an access point output power  
2     comprises calculating a first path loss to the mobile station.

1       10.    The method of claim 9 wherein adjusting an access point output power  
2     further comprises setting the output power to overcome the path loss.

1       11.    The method of claim 9 further comprising receiving a signal from a second  
2     mobile station.

1       12.    The method of claim 11 further comprising calculating a second path loss to  
2     the second mobile station.

1       13.    The method of claim 12 further comprising adjusting the output power to  
2     overcome a greater of the first path loss and the second path loss.

1       14.    A method comprising:  
2              transmitting a beacon frame from an access point at a full power level; and  
3              transmitting frames other than beacon frames from the access point at less  
4     than the full power level.

1       15.    The method of claim 14 wherein transmitting frames other than beacon  
2     frames comprises transmitting at a power level high enough to overcome a path loss  
3     to an associated mobile station.

1       16.    The method of claim 15 further comprising adjusting the power level when  
2     the associated mobile station disassociates.

1       17.    The method of claim 15 further comprising adjusting the power level when  
2     another mobile station associates.

1 18. The method of claim 14 further comprising periodically readjusting the  
2 power level.

1 19. The method of claim 18 wherein periodically adjusting the power level  
2 comprises determining a path loss to an associated mobile station.

1 20. An apparatus including a medium to hold machine-accessible instructions  
2 that when accessed result in a machine performing:  
3 transmitting a beacon frame from an access point at a full power level; and  
4 transmitting frames other than beacon frames from the access point at less  
5 than the full power level.

1 21. The apparatus of claim 20 wherein transmitting frames other than beacon  
2 frames comprises transmitting at a power level high enough to overcome a path loss  
3 to an associated mobile station.

1 22. The apparatus of claim 21 wherein machine-accessible instructions, when  
2 accessed, result in the machine further performing adjusting the power level when  
3 the associated mobile station disassociates.

1 23. The apparatus of claim 21 wherein machine-accessible instructions, when  
2 accessed, result in the machine further performing adjusting the power level when  
3 another mobile station associates.

1 24. An electronic system comprising:  
2 an antenna;  
3 a variable output power radio interface coupled to the antenna;  
4 a processing apparatus coupled to the variable output power radio interface  
5 to periodically adjust an output power to reduce potential interference while  
6 communicating with associated mobile stations; and

7 an Ethernet interface coupled to the processing apparatus.

1 25. The electronic system of claim 24 further comprising an apparatus including  
2 a medium to hold machine-accessible instructions that when accessed result in the  
3 processing apparatus performing:

4 transmitting a beacon frame at a full power level; and

5 transmitting frames other than beacon frames at less than the full power

6 level.

1 26. The electronic system of claim 25 wherein transmitting frames other than  
2 beacon frames comprises transmitting at a power level high enough to overcome a  
3 path loss to an associated mobile station.